

Broadcasts over publicly available airwaves, and intended to be viewed by the open public would make it seem that we have the same rights to make a copy of the data for personal use. By having the broadcast flag enforced, it takes away from ones right to retain the information for personal use.

Instead of being able to record a showing to watch later, just like you do today for radio and television, you will be forced to watch it on the networks time and schedule. You will also be prevented from being able to go back in time if you missed something. For example, watching my local or national news broadcast. I may have caught the tail end of the story. But, I wanted to see the story again. Perhaps even for a school project. With the broadcast flag, we would in theory be told "no, you can't do that".

It also prevents somebody from being able to objectively review broadcasted materials. I could no longer watch a television program to review it for appropriateness for my children (language, violence, nudity, etc). This flag would force my children to watch live TV and possibly be subjected to this if they wanted to watch a program, or were changing channels during the daytime while not 100% supervised.

In all, it doesn't make sense for the consumers. The only reason that this would be allowed is due to lobbying, such as the open statements by Viacom/CBS to halt all broadcasting of HDTV signals unless the FCC approves this. But, won't they required to broadcast regardless in the future? Don't let the corporations take away from the consumers. They won't make any more or less money, and ultimately, as the RIAA is seeing, consumers will just chose not to watch TV.